North Central Regional Transit District
Resolution 2013 - 33

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF A STATE OF NEW MEXICO FEDERAL LANDS ACCESS PROGRAM (FLAP) APPLICATION FOR CAPITAL AND OPERATING COSTS RELATING TO NEW TRANSIT SERVICE TO SANTA FE NATIONAL FOREST AND SKI SANTA FE

WHEREAS, the NCRTD was created through legislative enactment (NMSA 1978, Section 73-25-1 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, the NCRTD is a sub-division of the State of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the NCRTD was approved and certified by the New Mexico Department of Transportation on the 14th day of September 2004;

WHEREAS, the NCRTD wishes to submit an application for Federal funding for 2017-2018 through the Federal Lands Access Program; and

WHEREAS, the funding may be used for capital, operating and construction of a new transit service providing regional access to Santa Fe National Forest and Ski Santa Fe; and

WHEREAS, the application is due to the Central Federal Lands Highway Division by January 10, 2014 for prioritization and selection; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the NCRTD Board that the District Staff is authorized to file an application for the Federal Lands Access Program.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT ON THIS 6TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2013.

Daniel Barrone, Chairman

Approved as to form:

Mark Basham, Counsel

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Central Federal Lands Highway Division

12300 West Dakota Avenue
Suite 380B
Lakewood, CO 80228

September 13, 2013

Federal Land Managers
New Mexico Department of Transportation
Regional, County and Local Governments
Tribal Governments

Request for Project Applications
New Mexico Federal Lands Access Program

The Federal Lands Access Program (Access Program) presents an exciting opportunity for state, county, and local entities to obtain funding for a variety of transportation projects accessing Federal lands in the state of New Mexico. This new program was established by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), the new transportation authorization that was signed into law by the President on July 6, 2012, and was officially enacted on October 1, 2012. Project applications are now being accepted to develop a robust 5–7 year program of transportation projects (estimated program approximately $14.4 million). Funds will be available for construction projects in 2017 – 2018 with preliminary engineering funding will be made available after the program selection process has been completed.

What is the purpose of the program?

The goal of the Access Program is to improve transportation facilities that provide access to, are adjacent to, or are located within Federal lands.

Who is eligible to apply?

Eligible applicants include State, county, tribal, or city government agencies that **own or maintain** the transportation facility.

What types of projects will be considered?

The Access Program supplements State and local resources for public roads, transit systems, and other transportation facilities, with an emphasis on Federal high-use recreation sites and Federal economic generators. Access Program funds are intended for design, construction, or reconstruction and **are not** intended for maintenance projects (e.g., crack sealing, chip seal, potholes, or drainage repair).

How do I submit a project application?

1. Complete the New Mexico Access Program Application found at http://www.cflhd.gov/programs/flap/nm/index.cfm
2. Obtain endorsement from the appropriate Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA)
3. Send your completed project application via E-Mail to cfl.planning@dot.gov

How will projects be evaluated?

For New Mexico, the Access Program is administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) through the Central Federal Lands Highway Division (CFLHD). MAP-21 mandates that decisions be made through New Mexico's Programming Decisions Committee (PDC) in cooperation with the respective Federal Land Management Agencies. The PDC consists of three representatives: (a) FHWA; (b) the State DOT; and (c) a "representative of any appropriate political subdivision of the state." The PDC will review project applications and rank them based on weighted selection criteria developed by the PDC. The selection criteria are reflective of needs in the state of New Mexico and Federal regulations and guidelines.

Members of the New Mexico PDC include:

- Mr. Ryan Tyler, Planning and Programs Branch Manager, FHWA - CFLHD (or designated representative);
- Mr. Elias Archuleta, Division Director, NMDOT (or designated representative); and
- Mr. Paul Gutierrez, Executive Director, New Mexico Association of Counties (or designated representative).

The New Mexico PDC will solicit project applications with the intent of developing a 5 to 7 year program. **Applications will be due by January 10, 2014.** Applicants must be prepared to address the match requirements (15%) and have the support of the pertinent Federal Land Management Agencies.

Preference will be given to those projects which provide access to **Federal high-use recreational sites** or **Federal economic generators**. Projects will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Access, mobility and connectivity;
- Economic development;
- Facility condition;
- Safety;
- Funding, coordination and cost; and
- Resource protection.

Project selection resides with the PDC. The PDC will select a balanced program made up of a range of projects with a mix of larger and smaller construction values to balance the applicant's needs with the available funding. The PDC will make its final decision based on the project proposals ability to meet the aforementioned criteria as well as project support, project readiness, agency priorities, applicant's share of project costs, availability of funds, project development delivery schedules, previous Federal investment and environmental and right-of-way time constraints.

2013-2014 Tentative Project Selection Schedule:

Month							
October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May
Call for Projects			PDC scores and ranks applications	Program short list has project agreement, scoping, project delivery plan and project construction costs developed		PDC meeting, final project selection	Funded program announced
Applications prepared and submitted				Short list of applications engaged in scoping			

Note: Schedule subject to change

Who should I contact if I have questions?

Questions about the application process or the Access Program can be directed to:
Mr. Allen Grasmick, CFLHD's Federal Lands Access Program Coordinator at (720) 963-3664 or Allen.Grasmick@dot.gov

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For agency-specific contacts in New Mexico, see below.

Agency	Name	Email
New Mexico DOT	Elias Archuleta	Elias.Archuleta@state.nm.us
National Park Service	Jayne Schaeffer	Jayne_Schaeffer@nps.gov
National Forest Service	Danny Montoya	drmontoya@fs.fed.us
Bureau of Land Management	Elaine Lopez	elopez@blm.gov
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Rob O'Brien	robert_obrien@fws.gov
Army Corps of Engineers	Scott Rice	Scott.Rice@usace.army.mil
Military Surface Deployment Command	Jason Cowin	Jason.Cowin@us.army.mil

Sincerely yours,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Allen Grasmick, PMP
Access Program Coordinator

Attachment (Project Application)